

BEFORE THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILROADS

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Petition of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the Relocation of Four Public Crossings and the Closure of Two Public Crossings of the Wisconsin Central Ltd. Tracks in the City of Marshfield, Town of Spencer, and Village of Spencer, Marathon County

9164-RX-499

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

On July 28, 2003, the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads (OCR) issued an order that required, among other things, the alteration of the public crossing of the Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL or railroad) tracks with Mann Road (crossing no. 692 619D / MP 284.21) in the City of Marshfield, Marathon County by October 1, 2004. The order also required the installation of automatic 12" LED flashing lights signals, gates, and constant warning time circuitry and an interconnection that provides for the advance preemption of the traffic signals at the STH 13 intersection. The project was delayed to 2005.

By letter dated November 8, 2004, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) requested a Supplemental Order with regard to Mann Road. DOT states that the design of the intersection of STH 13 and Mann Road has been revised since the time of the hearing. The design now incorporates a two-lane approach from the west on Mann Road and two lanes departing the intersection heading west separated by an 8.5 ft. wide median. Islands have also been added at the intersection to control traffic movements. The new geometrics of the intersection/crossing require the use of additional crossing warning devices. The DOT recommends that for eastbound traffic on Mann Road that a cantilever and gate be utilized to cover both lanes. For westbound traffic, the DOT recommends side-of-road and median mounted flashing light signals with gates and sidelights facing South/Eastbound traffic on STH 13 that would be making a right turn to go west on Mann Road. Due to the distance from the crossing to the intersection along with the pre-emption and NO RIGHT TURN blank out signs, sidelights are not needed for North/Westbound traffic on STH 13.

The Commissioner agrees and amends the order accordingly.

In addition, the Commissioner extends the deadlines for the installation of automatic flashing lights and gates at Karau Avenue and for the removal and closure of the crossing at Hoff Road. The closure of Hoff Road was appealed to Circuit Court. The court affirmed the OCR order on October 7, 2004. However, the Hoff Road crossing cannot be removed and closed until the connecting roadway is completed. The Commissioner extends the deadline for the closure of Hoff Road to between August 22 and August 26, 2005.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED,

1. That the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall install and maintain a crossing at-grade of **Mann Road** with its tracks in accordance with the design plans of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in the City of Marshfield, Marathon County by **October 1, 2005**. (Crossing No. 692 619D)
2. That the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall install and maintain automatic 12" LED flashing lights signals, gates, and constant warning time circuitry with appropriate appurtenances in accordance with such plans as are filed with and approved by the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads at the crossing of its tracks with **Mann Road** at-grade in the City of Marshfield, Marathon County by **October 1, 2005** (Crossing No. 692 619D). That the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall install and maintain an interconnection that provides for the advance preemption of the traffic signals (as determined by the **Wisconsin Department of Transportation**). That for **eastbound** traffic the warning devices shall include cantilevered automatic flashing lights and a gate. That for **westbound** traffic the warning devices shall include side of road and median mounted flashing light signals with gates and sidelights facing South/Eastbound traffic on STH 13.
3. That the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall remove the crossing surface and the roadway approaches within its right-of-way for the crossing at-grade of **Hoff Road** with their tracks in the Town of Spencer, Marathon County between **August 22 and August 26, 2005**, provided that the crossing shall not be removed until the connecting roadway is completed and open to public travel. (crossing no. 689 926Y)
4. That in conjunction with the removal of the crossing, the **Town of Spencer and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation** shall install Type III barricades with red and white stripes at or near the terminus of each approach to the crossing at-grade of **Hoff Road** with the Wisconsin Central Ltd. tracks in the Town of Spencer, Marathon County by **August 22, 2005** [see Sections 3F-1, 6C-8 and Figure 6-14 in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)].
5. That the **Town of Spencer and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation** are authorized to install a vehicle turnaround area on the west approach to the existing Hoff Road crossing. The Town may construct any cul de sac or non-cul de sac turnaround design consistent with American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guidelines (*A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets*, 2001 edition) in the Town of Spencer, Marathon County.
6. That the **City of Marshfield** shall install and maintain exempt signs (Sign R15-3 in the MUTCD) on the signal masts on each approach to the crossing of **Mann Road** at-grade in the City of Marshfield, Marathon County by **October 1, 2005** (Crossing No. 692 619D), provided that the exempt signs shall not be installed until the new signals and gates are installed and the interconnection with the traffic signals is activated.
7. The **City of Marshfield** and the **Wisconsin Department of Transportation** shall also install and maintain yellow-background advance warning exempt signs (Sign W10-1a in the MUTCD) on the advance warning signs for the **Mann Road** crossing by **October 1, 2005**.

8. That the **Wisconsin Central Ltd.** shall install and maintain automatic 12" LED flashing lights signals, gates, and constant warning time circuitry with appropriate appurtenances in accordance with such plans as are filed with and approved by the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads at the crossing of its tracks with **Karau Avenue** at-grade in the Town of Spencer, Marathon County by **June 30, 2005** (Crossing No. 689 927F).

9. That jurisdiction is retained.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____.

By the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads.

Rodney W. Kreunen
Commissioner of Railroads

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